

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated December 20, 2004, claims 1-25 are pending, with claim 23-25 allowed, claims 5-8, 16, and 19-22 objected to, and the remaining claims rejected. In response to the Office Action, paragraph 1, Applicant submits herewith three replacement sheets of drawings.

A. Amendments to Claims

In response to paragraphs 2-3 of the Office Action, Applicant cancels claim 10. In response to the rejections under 35 USC 102(e) and 35 USC 103(a) of paragraphs 4-9, Applicant respectfully disagrees that the claims are anticipated by or obvious in view of the cited prior art. However, to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicant cancels claims 1, 4, and 10-18. Applicant rewrites "objected to" claim 5 to include the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 4. Claims 2 and 9 are amended to depend on claim 5. Applicant rewrites "objected to" claim 19 to include the limitations of base claim 17 and intervening claim 18.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached two (3) sheets of drawings are submitted in response to the Examiners objection to the drawings on page 2 of the Office Action. Specifically, Figure 7 is now designated as "Prior Art" in the legend. Figures 4A and 4B now contain reference designators 10, 50, 52 and 54 and the label "NOC" as described in paragraphs [0055] and [0056] of the original specification.

B. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a notice of allowance for the now pending claims 2, 3, 5-9, and 19-22 in addition to the allowed claims 23-25. Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation or continuation in part application for the subject matter of the canceled claims. Should the Examiner require further information, he is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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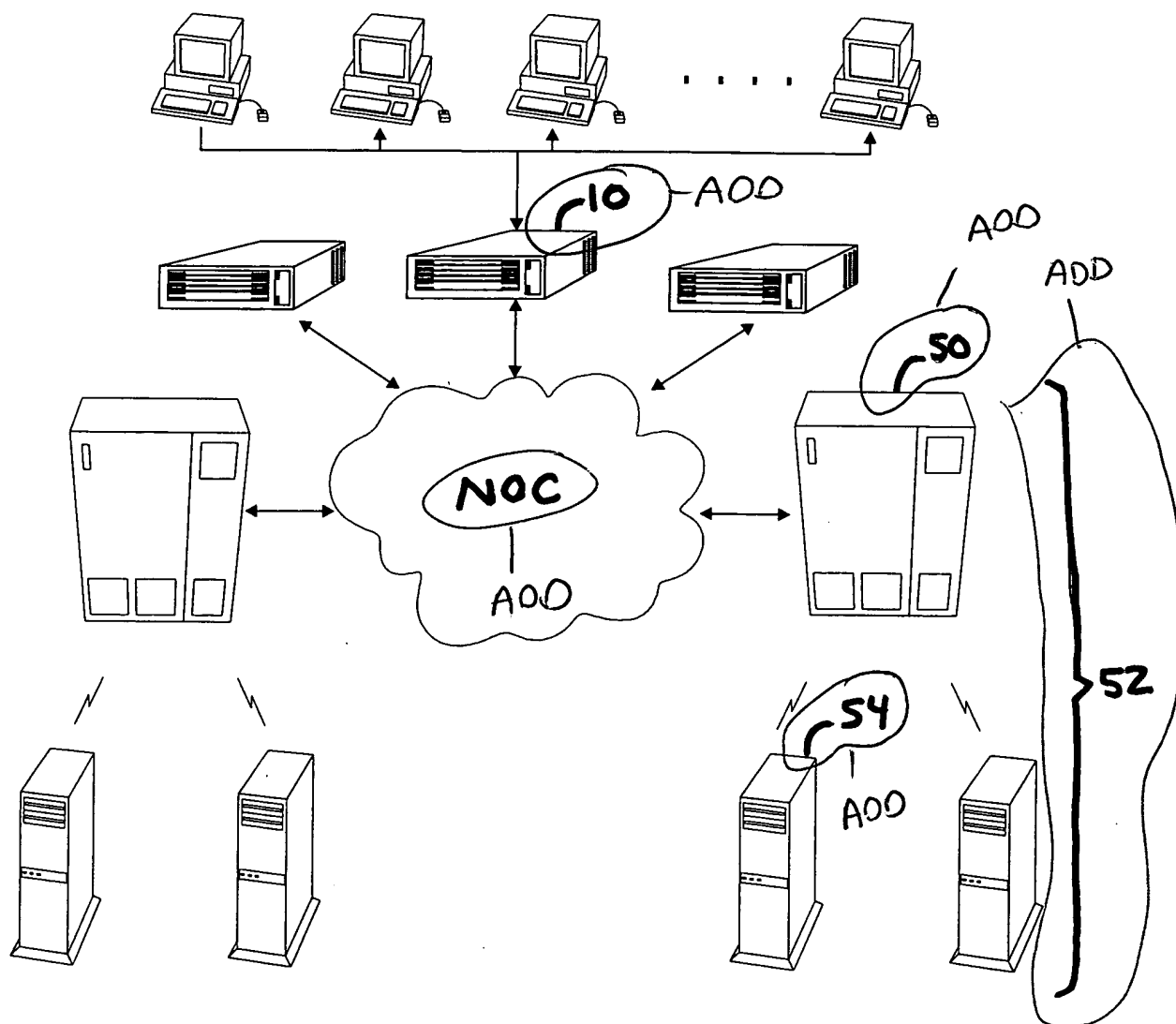


FIG. 4A

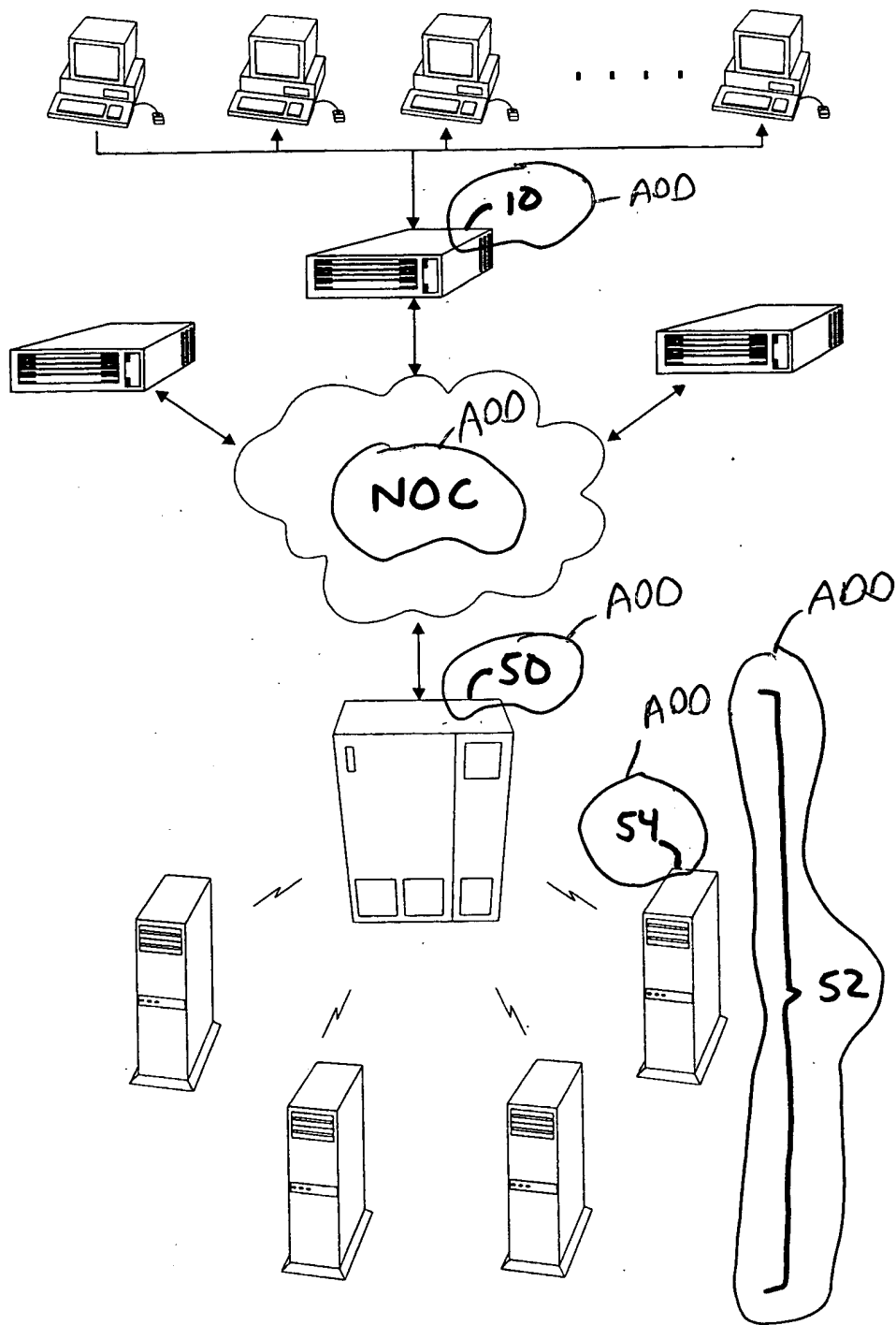


FIG. 4B

